

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXTENDING WIFIA LOAN TERMS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, recently I introduced a necessary amendment to the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 (WIFIA). This provision was included in my "WIFIA Improvement Act of 2020" (H.R. 8217) from last Congress. I thank my colleague Congressman NEWHOUSE (R-WA) for his support as the original cosponsor this year.

Our bipartisan bill would allow local communities seeking to build water infrastructure projects to secure federally guaranteed financing under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WIFIA loan program with a 55-year repayment schedule rather than the current 35-year loan term. This change would unlock low-interest WIFIA financing for projects with longer lifecycles like the off-stream Sites Reservoir Project in my Congressional district and similar water storage projects.

For fiscal year 2021, Congress made more than \$11.5 billion in federal WIFIA loans available. By making WIFIA loan terms more workable for projects with longer lifecycles, at no risk to the taxpayer, this bill will allow California and other western states to modernize water infrastructure and better meet future water supply needs.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to cosponsor this bipartisan bill to unlock the federal financing necessary to construct the water infrastructure of the future. I plan to make this bipartisan bill a major priority in my work as a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, including in any WIFIA reauthorization. The current Congressional authorization for the WIFIA program expires at the end of fiscal year 2021.

HONORING MR. ROBERT KANE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work of Mr. Robert Kane.

Robert was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and currently resides in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. He is the proud father to two sons, John Regan and Sanders Burke. Along with his two daughters in law, he has been blessed with four beautiful grandchildren Anne Pierson, Waring, Kate, and Grace.

Robert graduated from Louisiana State University in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Following his graduation in 1974, he obtained his real estate license in the State of Mississippi. Robert began his career in real estate in the hopes that, one day,

he could open his own real estate business. As the owner of the Robert Kane Management Company and part-owner of Greater Gulfport Properties, Incorporated, I believe he has succeeded.

Not only is Robert an astute business owner, he is also known for his tireless public service. In fact, in 2017, the Hancock County Port and Harbor Commission found it only fitting to dedicate their new 8,000 square foot administrative building in honor of his 23 years of leadership as President of the Commission.

For decades, Robert has volunteered with multiple civic, business, and social organizations. He is a lifelong member of the Hancock County Republican Executive Committee and for the past twenty years, produced one of the best barbeque fundraisers in Hancock County.

Today, we recognize Mr. Robert Kane for his outstanding service to the Republican Party, the State of Mississippi, and to Hancock County.

RECOGNIZING THE VA NORTHERN INDIANA WOMEN'S VETERAN HEALTH CLINIC

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the VA Northern Indiana Women's Veteran Health Clinic for their service to women veterans in our community.

The VA Northern Indiana Health Care System is committed to providing high-quality services in a sensitive and safe environment. In the clinic, each woman veteran is assigned a Women's Health Primary Care Provider; each provider is trained to deliver comprehensive primary care in any number of programs.

With 3,383 women veterans currently enrolled in the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System, the clinic provides maternity care programs, general health and wellness programs, baby shower preparation, sexual trauma services and more.

As a veteran myself and member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee in Congress, I am honored to have served in uniform and to serve the people of northeast Indiana in Congress. One of my top priorities has been, and always will be, ensuring those who served the United States receive the honor, opportunity and care they deserve.

This is a testament to the honor and sacrifice of those heroes who have served our country, and to those who serve them.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 6TH UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today as co-chair of the Global Road Safety Caucus to mark the 6th United Nations Global Road Safety Week, which begins today.

In September 2020, the United Nations passed a resolution declaring the years 2021 through 2030 a new Decade of Action for Road Safety. Additionally, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3.6 includes a call to address the personal, medical, and financial burdens associated with road traffic deaths and injuries.

The number of deaths on the world's roads remains unacceptably high, with an estimated 1.35 million people dying each year. But this is not just an issue in other countries. The National Safety Council (NSC) says deaths from motor vehicles rose 8 percent last year in the United States, with as many as 42,060 Americans dying in vehicle crashes. Also according to the State Department, road crash deaths are the single greatest cause of death for Americans traveling abroad.

As the Congress and the Biden administration consider investing in infrastructure, we must ensure these investments promote safety practices through a safe-systems approach and improve our roads and other infrastructure in ways that protect people and families. And as Americans begin traveling domestically and internationally again as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic, we should be cognizant of the many risk factors, including increased speed, that significantly increase the probability of death or injury.

By recognizing Global Road Safety Week and the 2nd Decade of Action for Road Safety, together we can make a difference in stemming the tide of the road crash epidemic in the United States and around the world. Ultimately, we should do everything in our power to protect the lives of all road users, and I hope to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do that.

HONORING BRENT STARK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brent Stark. Brent is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brent has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

many years Brent has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 29 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Brent has shown his leadership skills by maintaining the role of Patrol Leader, Den Chief and Troop Guide. Brent also holds the rank of Tom Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow. Brent has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project where he and his fellow Scouts and Scouters poured a concrete sidewalk to extend it to provide wheelchair access to the play area, firepit and picnic table.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brent Stark for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**HONORING MICHAEL CARPENTER
FOR THE DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION AS CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S FIRST EDUCATION CHAMPION**

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Michael Carpenter, named as the inaugural Education Champion by Clinton Community College.

Michael has been the president and CEO of The Northeast Group since 2008. Throughout his time with the company, his leadership and foresight have expanded The Northeast Group from a small print shop to four regional facilities providing an array of printing, publishing, and logistics services. However, Michael's influence and impact extends far beyond his business prowess. While Michael has had great success in the business world, he has also been an extremely impactful community leader. He currently serves on the Substance Abuse Prevention and Recovery of Clinton County Steering Committee, the Plattsburgh Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Clinton County Community Service Board. He has also previously served on the Workforce Investment Board, Strand Center for the Arts Board, the Literacy Volunteers, and Vision2Action Task Force as Chairman.

For more than 30 years, Michael has relentlessly dedicated himself to helping individuals recover from addiction, ensuring they have sound and necessary support systems in place. In conjunction with Clinton Community College, Michael launched the MHAB Life Skills Campus, a revolutionary program to offer transitional housing and a community space for those in recovery. In an effort supported by local nonprofit agencies, this program converted vacant dormitories into a campus where individuals can live, complete job training, literacy, and budgeting classes, and receive counseling services and drug treatment. Michael's work on this program has had an immeasurably positive impact on his community. He was also integral in bringing Club 12 to Plattsburgh, offering a welcoming space to host and encourage those working towards recovery through a 12-step program.

Michael has been an incredible advocate for the recovery community in the North Country.

He has shared his personal testimony of overcoming addiction and constantly works to support others in that same journey. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank Michael for his contributions to the Plattsburgh community and congratulate him on his innovative solution turning the unused dormitories into a thriving community gathering space.

HONORING MRS. NELL FRISBIE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work and dedication of Mrs. Nell Frisbie.

Mrs. Janet Gynell ("Nell") Frisbie was born and raised in Meridian, Mississippi. She graduated from Meridian High School and attended the University of Southern Mississippi where she was a member of the Kappa Delta sorority and a Varsity cheerleader.

After attending Southern Miss, Nell moved to New Orleans where she was employed as a secretary for Continental Casualty Company. There she met and married the late William ("Bill") Frisbie, an attorney, on June 10, 1961. In October 1962, Nell and Bill were blessed with a daughter, Joellyn.

Nell is a longtime Republican activist at the local, state, and national levels. She has recruited and campaigned for hundreds of Republican candidates at all levels of government, including supporting her husband, Bill, in his candidacy for City Council and Justice Court Judge.

Nell's passion for good government started at a young age. As a preschooler, she attended political rallies with her father. By the time she was a teenager, Nell was actively involved in local campaigns.

Nell has gone on to serve the Republican Party in almost too many ways to name. She was Chairman of the Hancock County Executive Committee for two terms and served two terms as President of the Hancock County Republican Women's Club. She has attended seven Republican National Conventions as a delegate and was on the Rules Committee at the 2016 Convention.

Nell was appointed to the Mississippi Republican Party Executive Committee and served as State President and 4th District Director for the Mississippi Federation of Republican Women. She has been invited to speak at Republican Women events in many states ranging from Georgia to California. Nell has had the honor of meeting former Presidents: Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, and former Vice President Mike Pence. She has worked to elect four Mississippi governors as well as many U.S. Senators and Congressmen and several state and local officials.

She has a gift for grassroots activism and organization, using her network and leadership skills to organize campaign headquarters and orchestrate volunteer activities. If you want to hear a funny story, ask Nell about "delivering a message to Congress". Today we recognize Mrs. Nell Frisbie for her outstanding service to the Republican Party, the State of Mississippi and Hancock County.

IN HONOR OF THE 67TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, on the 67th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education ruling, I rise to pay tribute to the three living students who desegregated universities within Alabama's 7th Congressional District, as well as Attorney Fred Gray who assisted and led the litigation for each of these students.

Over 60 years ago today, the United States Supreme Court declared that the doctrine established by Plessy v. Ferguson of "separate but equal" no longer reflected this country's moral and legal principles. Officially declaring racial segregation in schools as unconstitutional, this case established and upheld the American principles of racial equality and justice for all. While Brown v. Board of Education was a landmark decision towards a more just and equal America, Dr. King said, "the arc of the moral universe is long." While this case blazed trails for the progression of our society, the legacy of Jim Crow has deep roots, making it our responsibility to continue to fight against injustice.

This year, as we honor the living, breathing legacy of the Brown decision, it is critically important that we pay tribute to the sacrifices made by the three living students who took on the charge of desegregating institutions of higher education in Alabama: Autherine Lucy (age 91), Wendell Gunn (age 79), and Harold Franklin (age 88).

On September 4, 1952, Autherine Lucy submitted her application to the then segregated University of Alabama. Despite being accepted to the university, once the administration realized that Autherine was African American, her acceptance was withdrawn. Autherine was allowed to attend the university after receiving support from the community, two civil rights attorneys, and the Brown decision. As the first institution of higher education to be tested by the Brown decision, many believed that Autherine's sacrifices set the precedent for integrating institutions of higher education, yet many minority students after her continued to fight against institutionalized segregation.

In July 1963, 7 years after Autherine was admitted to the University of Alabama, Wendell Gunn attempted to enroll in Florence College, now known as the University of North Alabama. After being sent to the university president's office, Wendell was told that he could not be admitted without a federal court order. Once again, attorney Fred Gray took on the case upholding his simple declaration to "destroy everything segregated."

In January of the following year, Harold Franklin walked onto the campus of Auburn University as the school's first African American student. Similarly, Harold's enrollment to the university was met with strong opposition from those dedicated to preserving segregation within public schools despite the Brown decision. As a result, after "completing" every requirement to obtain his master's degree, he was not able to defend his master's thesis and graduate until February of 2020.

As a proud product of Selma High School and its first Black valedictorian, I stand on the

shoulders of so many who were denied access to great public schools in the name of institutionalized segregation. Understanding this, we know that 67 years later the fight to ensure that all people are afforded access to a quality education continues throughout this Nation. Today as we reflect on the Brown v. Board of Education decision, may we be renewed by the tenacity and bravery of Autherine Lucy, Wendall Gunn, and Harold Franklin and the perseverance of Attorney Fred Gray.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to these three students and Attorney Gray for their contributions to reshaping education in Alabama and across our Nation.

CONGRATULATING THE OZARK
HIGH SCHOOL ARMY JROTC PRO-
GRAM

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Ozark High School Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AJROTC), for receiving National Championships in four separate disciplines, Raider Competition, Air Rifle Three Position Competition, Armed Drill Competition, and Unarmed Drill Competition. This is the first time in the history of AJROTC that one school has accomplished such a feat.

First created in 1916, AJROTC programs have expanded to over 1,700 schools nationwide. The goal of these programs is to develop Cadets into young men and women of impeccable character. A major part of the program is the development of leadership skills. As the Cadets progress, they are given the opportunity to lead younger Cadets. The teaching of the skills molds these men and women into the leaders of tomorrow.

The AJROTC program would not succeed without the hard work of dedicated instructors. There are currently nearly 4,000 instructors nationwide. They come from a variety of backgrounds and are all retired from either active duty, reserve duty, or the National Guard. Among these dedicated individuals are 3 instructors from Ozark High School. Major Danny Cazier, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jason Allen, and 1st Sergeant William Crawford have more than 60 years of Army and Training experience. They have worked tirelessly to instill in their Cadets the values of citizenship, community and national service, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment. It is thanks to their hard work that Ozark High School AJROTC accomplished so much this year.

The Cadets of Ozark High School AJROTC are incredibly hard-working individuals. They begin their practices at 5:00 am, and they frequently sacrifice their Saturdays to the competitions. Their Drill Team also provides Ceremonial Color Guard for a variety of community events. All of this is in addition to their school work.

Madam Speaker, it is clear that our nation needs more young men and women who demonstrate a strong devotion to their community and country. The cadets of Ozark High School AJROTC live these values every day. I commend Major Cazier, Chief Warrant Officer 3

Allen, and 1st Sergeant Crawford, and all the Cadets of Ozark High School for their historic achievements this past year and wish them well in their future competitions.

HONORING JACQUE HOWELL AS
IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, in honor of Child Care Provider Appreciation Day, I would like to recognize Jacque Howell, director of Red Oak Child Development Center. Jacque has led the way in expanding childcare options in her rural community of Red Oak, Iowa.

Childcare is an especially scarce resource in Iowa. In 2018, 41 percent of our cities had children but no known childcare and 48 percent have some childcare but fewer slots than there are children. As you might imagine, this has a significant impact on our workforce and economy as many families struggle to balance parenthood and employment. In Montgomery County where Jacque and her family live, there were 1,183 children under the age of 9 but only 435 available spaces in existing licensed childcare facilities.

In 2019, Jacque attended a meeting with the Iowa Women's Foundation and was faced with many of these same statistics and was blown away by the lack of available quality care in Iowa. That's when she sprang into action and gathered others to start the Red Oak Child Development Center. Jacque was hired as director of the center in January 2020 and raised an impressive \$1.2 million in funds to bring this dream to reality.

Red Oak Child Development Center is a special organization as they partner with their local school district to make the care more accessible. They have also opted to offer infant care, a service that isn't provided by other care facilities in their community. The center is currently working on expanding its location to house two additional infant care rooms. Currently, they have 100 children enrolled in their care and they see an average of 70 to 75 of those children daily. They were baffled by how quickly they were able to fill their spots and continue to receive enrollment applications daily. Red Oak Child Development Center aims to provide quality, affordable childcare to their community. They accept childcare assistance with just over a quarter of their children receiving that support. It's clear that they are filling a significant need as some families drive up to 30 minutes one-way just to take their children to care.

Jacque says that educating the next generation of Iowan's is something that has been a lifelong passion of hers. She understands that children are truly our future and she endeavors to provide children with support, love, and encouragement. As the director of the Red Oak Child Development Center, she's been able to help build an organization that believes in quality over quantity, supports the social, emotional, and cognitive development of all children. Jacque also recognizes the importance of her amazing staff members and their ever-supportive community as they work together to continue to build what is already an incredible child development center.

Jacque's dedication to the children in her community is not only vital to the development of the children but also empowers families to reengage in their local economy as they are able to get back to work and rest easy knowing their kids are in good care. Because of that, it is my honor to recognize Jacque Howell as our Iowan of the Week.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1447—COAST
RESEARCH ACT OF 2021 AND H.R.
2533—NEAR ACT OF 2021

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1447, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats, or COAST, Research Act of 2021. I also rise in support of H.R. 2533, the National Estuaries and Acidification Research, or NEAR, Act of 2021.

These two bipartisan bills supporting ocean acidification research passed the House under suspension last Congress. The oceans have absorbed excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from the burning of fossil fuels. The resulting rise in ocean acidity levels has been shown to cause harm to marine life. Organisms like oysters, clams, and corals have difficulty building their shells and skeletons in more acidic environments. Higher acidity also alters the behavior of some fish. Ocean acidification threatens the vitality of our coastal economies. We need to get ahead of the problem of ocean acidification before it causes even greater economic harm.

Congresswoman BONAMICI's COAST Research Act reauthorizes and updates the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act. The bill supports the ocean acidification program at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA. The bill has several updates to improve the text from last Congress, with bipartisan agreement.

This year marks 10 years of ocean acidification research at NOAA. This next decade will be crucial for further understanding the impacts of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems and coastal communities. We must pass this crucial legislation to help support federal efforts to inform mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Congressman POSEY's NEAR Act would require a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. This study would examine the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments.

I thank Congresswoman BONAMICI for her leadership on this issue and Congressman POSEY for his bill. I thank Ranking Member LUCAS and our staffs for working together to prepare these bills for Floor passage. Finally, I thank the numerous experts who helped inform the development of both bills.

I urge my colleagues to swiftly pass these two bipartisan bills through the House. I look forward to working with the Senate to pass strong ocean acidification legislation into law.

I also want to include in the RECORD several letters of support we have received for H.R. 1447 from outside groups.

OCEAN CONSERVANCY,
Washington, DC, May 17, 2021.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: On behalf of Ocean Conservancy, I am writing to express our strong support for H.R. 1447, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act of 2021, and to urge your colleagues to vote to pass the legislation when it is considered on the House Floor. Americans depend on a healthy ocean, and ocean acidification threatens millions of jobs and livelihoods, cultures, and ways of life, from the Pacific Northwest's shellfish industry to Florida's coral reef tourism. The COAST Research Act will strengthen our nation's investments in ocean and coastal acidification, and we encourage Members of Congress to stand with coastal communities, businesses, and our marine environment by passing this important legislation.

From coast to coast, ocean acidification is having a broad range of impacts on the health of our ocean and coastal communities. Economically and ecologically important regional species are suffering. Ocean acidification has attributed to dissolving the shells of young Dungeness crab, an economically valuable fishery in the Pacific Northwest, with additional research suggesting that acidification also impacts the crab's ability to navigate their environment. Corals, such as the corals off the coast of Florida, grow more slowly under acidification and are less likely to recover from breakage or loss. However, ocean acidification is not the only stressor facing our ocean, and the combination of impacts can be more detrimental to our marine environment. Ocean acidification, when combined with increased ocean temperatures for example, have shown the ability to impact the reproductive success of Pacific herring, more than either change alone.

Since the first detrimental impacts of ocean acidification in the Pacific Northwest in the mid-2000s, when acidification caused widespread larval shellfish death in the region, researchers and coastal industries have faced the reality of an increasingly acidic ocean head-on. Oregon State University researchers studying Netarts Bay, the initial hotspot for documented ocean acidification impacts on the Pacific oyster, have uncovered the complex interactions among local circulation and biological activity, which is now informing local shellfish farmers of when to begin particular activities. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, ocean and coastal acidification has had extensive biological and socioeconomic impacts and research is accelerating to find ways to offset those harms.

In 2009, Congress recognized the urgent need for federal investments in ocean acidification research and monitoring, and subsequently passed the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring (FOARAM) Act of 2009. FOARAM established the federal government's work on ocean acidification by creating the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program and an interagency working group on ocean acidification. Much of our knowledge and understanding of ocean acidification that has emerged in the last decade can be credited to the federal funding authorized by FOARAM. The law's authorization, however, expired in 2012, and there are changes that can be made to further improve our ability to understand acidification in the open ocean as well as in the coastal zone.

As the ocean continues to absorb carbon dioxide and the ocean continues to acidify, we must take action to protect our communities and wildlife from the impacts of acidification.

The COAST Research Act will help our nation and coastal communities better prepare for the effects from ocean and coastal acidification, strengthen investments in research and monitoring, increase our understanding of the impacts acidification has on our communities and bring together ocean stakeholders to guide research and monitoring. Thank you for your leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you to craft solutions for our changing ocean environment.

Sincerely,

REGGIE PAROS,
Director, Government Relations,
Ocean Conservancy.

CONSORTIUM FOR OCEAN LEADERSHIP,
Washington, DC, May 17, 2021.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: On behalf of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership (COL), which represents our nation's leading ocean science, research, and technology organizations from academia, industry, and the larger nonprofit sector (to include aquariums, philanthropy, and associations), I am writing to express support for the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act of 2021 (H.R. 1447). COL applauds the COAST Research Act in its mission to strengthen existing ocean acidification initiatives and to introduce new strategies to better understand and manage this environmental stressor.

Ocean acidification, which occurs as the ocean absorbs higher concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide, threatens the health of the entire ocean. As corals, shellfish, and many types of plankton struggle to create and maintain their shells or exoskeletons in more acidic waters, ocean food webs are disrupted. This, in turn, threatens the crucial balance in many ecosystems, as well as our own security and prosperity, jeopardizing the stability of those whose livelihoods depend on a healthy ocean. Like many environmental challenges of our time, vulnerable communities who rely on shellfish and healthy coastal ecosystems for food, employment, and commerce with few alternatives will feel the negative impacts of ocean acidification most acutely. Combatting the causes and mitigating the effects of ocean acidification requires sustained congressional support and interagency collaboration, as well as engagement by stakeholders in the private sector, academia, philanthropy, and beyond. I strongly commend the COAST Research Act's commitment to advancing ocean acidification research and monitoring efforts, as well as promoting cooperation among stakeholder groups.

I offer my sincere thanks to you, Congresswoman Bonamici, for your efforts to help us better understand this urgent threat and to improve overall ocean health by strengthening federal investments in the research and increasing monitoring of changing ocean conditions. Our lives and our future may well depend on it.

Respectfully,

JONATHAN W. WHITE,
RADM (RET.), USN,
President and CEO,
Consortium for
Ocean Leadership.

EARTHJUSTICE,

May 17, 2021.

Re Earthjustice supports the H.R. 1447, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats Research Act of 2021.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: Thank you for your leadership in addressing one of the greatest threats facing our oceans. Earthjustice strongly supports the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Act of 2021 (H.R. 1447). Ocean acidification is a growing global phenomenon harming our coastal communities, ecosystems, and economies, and this proposed legislation would strengthen our ability to combat this threat with the urgency and resources needed.

Ocean acidification erodes the very foundations of our ocean ecosystems, as acidic waters imperil everything from cod larvae and lobsters to plankton and corals. The ocean absorbs 30% of the carbon dioxide that we release into the atmosphere, and acidification from excess carbon sets off a destructive chain reaction whereby the loss of tiny snails imperils species of all sizes that prey on them, such as killer whales. We have also seen the damage that acidification can wreak on coastal economies, such as our Pacific Northwest shellfish farms. We need immediate action to halt plunging pH levels and promote resilience in the face of changing temperatures.

The COAST Research Act jumpstarts ocean recovery by updating the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act (FOARAM) to address the full scope of acidification's effects. Increasing funding for FOARAM and expanding the definition of ocean acidification ensures our efforts are informed by the best available science we have. Incorporating data on the socioeconomic and regional impacts of acidification ensures that our response to the problem is both comprehensive and practical. Establishing an advisory board that represents and coordinates the diverse stakeholders impacted by acidification ensures that interests at every level—industry, recreation, and conservation—are considered in federal actions against ocean acidification.

Bipartisan support for the COAST Research Act speaks to the seriousness of the problem and the efficiency of this bill's proposed solutions. Neither Democrats nor Republicans are willing to watch our blue economy dissolve in increasingly acidic waters. Both parties support action to stabilize and strengthen our ocean ecosystems. This bill provides the funding and the strategy to do just that.

We greatly appreciate your leadership on this important issue and implore Congress to timely pass it.

Sincerely,

DANNY FOLDS,
Associate Legislative Counsel, Earthjustice.

WILD SALMON CENTER,
February 22, 2021.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BONAMICI: From coast to coast, ocean acidification is having a broad range of impacts on the health of our ocean and coastal communities. Coastal industries are continuing to face the reality of an increasingly acidic ocean. In 2017, researchers at Oregon State University recorded some of the highest levels of ocean acidification in the world off the coast of the

Pacific Northwest. Additionally, 63% of test sites on the west coast experienced levels of acidification known to cause commercial oyster production failures.

Our Pacific Northwest economies, our recreational and commercial fishing, and shellfish industry as well as our great northwest tourism economy—all depend on a healthy ocean. And because we are already seeing the effects of ocean acidification, we support your efforts and we support H.R. 1237, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

Much of our knowledge and understanding of ocean acidification that has emerged in the last decade can be credited to the federal funding authorized by Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring (FOARAM) Act of 2009. FOARAM established the federal government's work on ocean acidification by creating the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program and an interagency working group on ocean acidification. FOARAM's authorization expired in 2012. The COAST Research Act amends FOARAM to further improve our ability to understand acidification in the open ocean as well as in the coastal zone.

We support the COAST Research Act and believe it will help our coastal communities better prepare for the effects from ocean and coastal acidification. Thank you for your leadership to strengthen the nation's focus and investment in oceans and coastal acidification.

Sincerely,

SARA LABORDE,
Executive Vice President, Wild Salmon Center.

IOOS ASSOCIATION,
May 17, 2021.

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: On behalf of the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Association and its national network of eleven coastal observing systems, I write to support the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) links together Federal agencies and eleven Regional Associations (RAs) to design and to operate regional observing systems to provide timely and reliable data and information on our oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes. Coastal acidification is becoming an even more pressing concern for many of our stakeholders and users, such as shellfish growers, shellfish harvesters, fishermen, resource managers, and coastal communities.

The impacts of coastal acidification vary, and each system must be tailored to the unique situation of the region. The IOOS RAs work closely with NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program to understand the regional context, to deploy and operate sensors, support the data that can detect and monitor acidification to support and improve warnings and alerts and to provide for the sharing and integration of data.

The COAST Research Act will enhance these and other efforts to understand, monitor and manage the nation's ability to respond and adapt to ocean acidification. The Act does this by expanding the Advisory Board to include representatives of the variety of industries and stakeholder impacted by ocean acidification, expanding the strategic plan for research and monitoring, and expanding the role of the Federal agencies for addressing ocean acidification.

Sincerely,

ELLA (JOSIE) QUINTRELL,
Director.

HONORING COLONEL ALBEN N. HOPKINS, JR., AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work of Colonel Alben N. Hopkins, Jr., Staff Judge Advocate of the Mississippi Air National Guard.

Colonel Hopkins hails from Gulfport, Mississippi where he attended St. John High School. His wife Jodie and 12-year-old son, Carter, proudly call Gulfport home.

Colonel Hopkins has served in several positions, but none more fulfilling than serving his country. His military career began in 1990 when he became a legal specialist for the Mississippi Army National Guard. Colonel Hopkins has strong family military ties including his father, retired Major General Alben Norris Hopkins, Sr.

Colonel Hopkins's extensive educational background includes a bachelor's degree in Arts and History from the University of Mississippi, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. He received his Juris Doctorate from the Mississippi College School of Law and a Master of Strategic Studies from the prestigious Air War College.

During his service, Colonel Hopkins was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, along with several other awards and decorations.

He is also a member of the Mississippi Bar, where he practices as a civilian lawyer with his private law firm of Hopkins, Barvie, & Hopkins, P.L.L.C. He has a general civil practice specializing in litigation.

Colonel Hopkins retired this month with over three decades of dedication to the state of Mississippi and our great nation. I thank Colonel Hopkins, and his family, for their service and sacrifice and on behalf of the 4th Congressional District, we wish him the best.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE OF PASTOR E. BAXTER MORRIS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and exemplary service of Pastor Edgar Baxter Morris, the beloved senior pastor of the historic First Baptist Church on North Ripley Street in Montgomery, Alabama who passed away on Sunday, May 2, 2021 surrounded by family. Pastor E. Baxter Morris was a devoted community leader and former Montgomery Police Department chaplain. He served for 50 years as the pastor of the iconic First Baptist Church, which was once pastored by Rev. Ralph Abernathy, a key strategist and architect of the Civil Rights Movement and Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Pastor Morris was born the second of two children to Mr. and Mrs. Willie and Ella Bea-

trice Morris in Anniston, Alabama. He studied at Jacksonville State University, Selma University, and Alabama State University. He continued his education at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education and Samford University Extension Division. Later, Pastor Morris returned to the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education and the State Congress to serve as both an instructor and lecturer.

Pastor Morris was called to ministry on August 20, 1972. As a faithful public servant to his community, Pastor Morris served as Chaplain for Montgomery Police Department for over 20 years and as a mentor for Montgomery police officers and their families. As the senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama for almost 50 years, Pastor Morris worked tirelessly to uphold the legacy of this historic church by promoting social justice and equity. Pastor Morris held numerous leadership positions within religious and community organizations. He is the past moderator of the Montgomery-Antioch of Christian Education, lecturer of the State Congress of Christian Education, missionary for the Alabama Baptist Southeast District State Convention, and lecturer of the Alabama Southeast District State Convention Women's Department.

Known as an active community leader, Pastor Morris dedicated his life to the police officers of Montgomery and to their families. He offered mentorship and support to police officers and emergency first-responders throughout his career. He served on various boards in Montgomery and the surrounding community including the Montgomery Area Mental Health Authority. Pastor Morris was also a member of the Fraternal Order and Masonic, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and the Inspector General 33° United Supreme Council A.A.S.R. of Freemasonry, S.J., Inc. Prince Hall.

Pastor Morris is survived by his loving and faithful wife, Rebie Morris, four children, twelve grandchildren, one great-grandniece, three nephews, one godson, and a host of other relatives and friends including his First Baptist Church Family, Ministerial Circle, Sigma Brothers, Zeta Sisters, and Masonic Family.

On a personal note, I am eternally grateful for the tremendous community contributions made by Pastor Morris and the dedicated congregation of First Baptist Church. Under the leadership of Pastor Morris, First Baptist Church opens its doors to thousands of travelers from across the world who want to learn more about the role this church played during the Civil Rights Movement. Pastor Morris remained committed to preserving and furthering the legacy of activism at First Baptist Church fostered by his predecessor Rev. Ralph Abernathy. I am especially appreciative of the warm and generous hospitality shown by Pastor Morris and the entire congregation of the First Baptist Church. They have served as the hosts for Members of Congress during the annual Faith and Politics Civil Rights Pilgrimage since 1998. Year after year, the highlight of the pilgrimage for many of my colleagues was the "five-star" Saturday Brunch hosted by Pastor Morris and his congregation. We will surely miss his warm smile, congenial personality, infinite wisdom, compassionate heart, and generous spirit. May we be comforted in knowing that the legacy of service and unwavering faith of Pastor Morris will live on in the hearts and actions of those he impacted.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and legacy of Pastor Edgar Baxter Morris and his contributions to the Montgomery community.

HONORING RUSSELL EUGENE
Gwaltney

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Russell Eugene Gwaltney, who died on March 12, 2021 at the age of 81. Russ was a local legend in his youth who later served his hometown as a career law enforcement officer who honorably fulfilled his professional duties.

Russ was born in Roanoke, Virginia on August 21, 1939, to Charles Wesley Gwaltney and Florence Gay Gwaltney Boggess. His father passed away before he was born, and his mother, a cashier, raised him in Salem.

His first calling in life was as a marbles champion. The game was popular in his neighborhood, and his older brother Charlie taught him to play at the age of four or five. He grew in skill, amassing a collection of marbles he won from other players. Russ lost to Charlie in the semifinals of a 1948 tournament sponsored by the Salem Recreation Department. As he recalled to the Roanoke Times in 1993, "When he beat me, he made me want to get better." Russ did, winning the town championship in 1949 and then the 1952 National Championship held in Asbury Park, New Jersey. Salem showered its national marbles champion with laurels upon his return. Although interest in marbles declined, he stayed involved in the game as an adult and helped with the national tournament.

In the following years, Russ graduated from Andrew Lewis High School and served in the United States Navy. After starting his policing career in Newport News, he moved back to Salem and began his 34 years with the Salem Police Department, which he served as a uniformed officer, detective, and member of the SWAT Team, rising to the rank of captain. He concluded his career as chief of police in Dublin, Virginia.

Russ is survived by his wife, Rita Woodyard Gwaltney; son and daughter-in-law, Rusty and Katy Gwaltney; daughter and grandson, Renee' Moore and Phoenix Moore; and brothers Charles Thomas Gwaltney and Douglas MacArthur Hawkins. I offer them my condolences on the loss of this good man, who earned a unique fame in Salem as a boy and then returned it with a career of faithful service in law enforcement.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Com-

mittee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 19

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, Jose W. Fernandez, of New York, to be an Under Secretary of State (Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment), to be United States Alternate Governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to be United States Alternate Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and to be United States Alternate Governor of the Inter-American Development Bank, routine lists in the Foreign Service, and other pending nominations; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Brian A. Nichols, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary (Western Hemisphere Affairs), and Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Organization Affairs), both of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

SD-138

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine rethinking disaster recovery and resiliency, focusing on protecting communities and accelerating assistance.

SD-192

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine biodiversity loss, focusing on drivers, impacts, and potential solutions.

SD-G50

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine COVID-19 health care flexibilities, focusing on perspectives, experiences, and lessons learned.

WEBEX

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine the Internal Revenue Service, focusing on nar-

rowing the tax gap and improving taxpayer services.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Adrienne Todman, of the Virgin Islands, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Nuria I. Fernandez, of California, to be Federal Transit Administrator, Department of Transportation.

SD-106

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine COVID-19, focusing on evaluating the medical supply chain and pandemic response gaps.

SD-342/VTC

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine antitrust applied, focusing on hospital consolidation concerns and solutions.

SD-226

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine realizing the vision of Parren Mitchell, focusing on untapping the potential of minority and women contracting.

SR-301

3 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine military infrastructure and climate resilience.

SD-192

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Donald Michael Remy, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Secretary, Matthew T. Quinn, of Montana, to be Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Maryanne T. Donaghy, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary (Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection), and Patricia L. Ross, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary (Congressional and Legislative Affairs), all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-G50

4:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy's atomic defense activities and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and future years defense program.

SR-232A

MAY 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine Federal, state, and private forestlands, focusing on opportunities for addressing climate change.

SR-301

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine taking aim at Alzheimer's, focusing on frontline perspectives and caregiver challenges.

VTC

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the transition of all United States and Coalition

forces from Afghanistan and its implications; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SD-G50

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine 21st century communities, focusing on expanding opportunity through infrastructure investments.

WEBEX

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Eric S. Lander, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Pamela A. Melroy, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Carlos Alberto Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, and Richard W. Spinrad, of Oregon, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

SH-216

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the role of reforestation, active forest management, and carbon storage in fostering resiliency.

SD-366

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security

To hold hearings to examine solving the crisis in the health care workforce

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 312, to expand eligibility for and provide judi-

cial review for the Elderly Home Detention Pilot Program, provide for compassionate release based on COVID-19 vulnerability, shorten the waiting period for judicial review during the COVID-19 pandemic, and make other technical corrections, S. 601, to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing, S. 1014, to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and the nominations of Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Candace Jackson-Akiwumi, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Julien Xavier Neals, and Zahid N. Quraishi, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Regina M. Rodriguez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

SD-106

MAY 25

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of State.

SD-106

MAY 26

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine budgeting for the future of forest management, focusing on rethinking resiliency.

SD-138

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on National Parks

To hold hearings to examine the current state of the National Park System, focusing on the impacts of COVID-19 on National Park Service operations, staff, visitation and facilities.

SD-366

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Commerce.

SD-124

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the United States Agency for International Development.

SD-192

JUNE 17

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Defense.

SD-106